

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending. The claims, and the abstract have been amended to correct informalities. A 5 marked up copy of the amended claims is attached herewith. No new matter is believed to be added.

No fee is believed due in regard to the present amendment. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

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Respectfully submitted,
Jean-Pierre Bertin, et al.



By: Paul P. Kiel,
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 40,677
609-734-9650

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25 THOMSON multimedia Licensing Inc.
Patent Operations
PO Box 5312
Princeton, NJ 08543-5312

A marked up copy of amended claims:

[Claim] 1. (Amended) Apparatus for receiving audio-visual
5 programs comprising a circuit for communication with
means of connection to a bi-directional communication
network, wherein the apparatus comprises:
- a first connector of a bus for communication with a
master apparatus, the first connector comprising at
10 least one conductor for the transmission of a supply
voltage [(V_{BUS})] originating from the master apparatus,
- at least one second connector of a
communication bus, each second connector allowing the
connection of at least one peripheral,
15 - a splitter connected on the one hand to the
first and second connectors and on the other hand to a
controller managing the mode of operation of the
connectors in relation to the apparatus,
- means of detection of the presence of the
20 supply voltage [(V_{BUS})] in the first connector, the means
of detection being linked to the first connector and
generating a switching control signal on the appearance
of the supply voltage [(V_{BUS})] to a switching circuit, so
as to switch the apparatus from a first mode of operation
25 to a second mode of operation.

[Claim] 2. (Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein the first mode of operation is a so-called master
mode of operation, in which the apparatus behaves as a
30 master in relation to each peripheral, and in that the
second mode of operation is a so-called peripheral mode
of operation in which the apparatus behaves as a
peripheral in relation to the master apparatus.

35 [Claim] 3. (Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein the first connector is a B type USB connector and
in that each second connector is an A type USB connector.

[Claim] 4. (Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the switching circuit comprises a quad switch, linked to the inputs/outputs of the controller and to the second connector, so as to allow the link between the 5 second connector and the controller for a first given switching state.

[Claim] 5. (Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the switching circuit comprises a quad switch, 10 linked to the inputs/outputs of the controller and to the inputs/outputs of a two-pathway splitter, itself linked to the first connector so as to allow in a second switching state the link between on the one hand the first connector and the controller and on the other hand 15 the link from the first connector to the second connector.

[Claim] 6. (Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein a link transmits the supply voltage detection 20 signal so as to control the switching from one state to the other, to an input of the controller and to an input of the main microprocessor.

[Claim] 7. (Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein, when the quad switch is switched into a first 25 state, the apparatus operates in peripheral mode and when the quad switch is switched into a second state, the apparatus operates in master mode.

[Claim] 8. (Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 1, 30 wherein the master apparatus is a personal computer and the apparatus comprises a digital decoder connected to the communication network so as to allow the computer to talk to the said network.

35 [Claim] 9. (Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the peripheral or peripherals are linked to the second connector of the apparatus by way of an additional splitter external to the decoder.